

By Senator Darneille

**ESHB 1109** - S COMM AMD TO WM COMM AMD (S-3337.2/19)  
By Committee on Ways & Means

64

1 On page 137, line 27, increase the general fund—state  
2 appropriation for fiscal year 2020 by \$125,000

3 On page 137, line 33, correct the total

4 On page 142, after line 30, insert the following:

5 "(y)(i) \$125,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for  
6 fiscal year 2020 is provided solely for the department of children,  
7 youth, and families to establish a work group to review and make  
8 recommendations regarding the needs of foster youth to ensure a  
9 successful transition to adulthood. No later than July 1, 2020, the  
10 work group shall submit to the governor and the appropriate  
11 committees of the legislature recommendations on the following:

12 (A) Development of a developmentally appropriate curriculum and  
13 staffing model to address the needs of foster youth transitioning to  
14 adulthood, including opportunities to leverage innovative approaches  
15 through technology and the use of peer mentors;

16 (B) The specific needs of children and youth of color and those  
17 who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and  
18 questioning who have special education and disability related needs;  
19 and

20 (C) Development of an optimal continuum of independent living and  
21 transition support services for foster youth aged fourteen to twenty-  
22 three using research-based program strategies.

23 (ii) In developing these recommendations, the work group shall:

24 (A) Develop an overview of current independent living and  
25 transition support services, including eligibility requirements,  
26 service levels, service providers, available outcomes, service  
27 coordination, and data sharing;

28 (B) Review and, whenever possible, report data on the well-being  
29 outcomes of children and youth in foster care, including school  
30 stability, mental and physical health, disabilities, adult  
31 connections, financial literacy, education, and employment. To the

1 maximum extent possible, this data must be disaggregated by race and  
2 ethnicity;

3 (C) Review recommendations of project education impact to  
4 identify areas of overlap in efforts to achieve educational success  
5 for Washington's children, youth, and young adults in foster care or  
6 experiencing homelessness; and

7 (D) Develop a plan to:

8 (I) Align indicators and outcomes across agencies, organizations,  
9 and programs;

10 (II) Address existing systemic barriers, including identification  
11 of where opportunities exist to align policy, practices, and supports  
12 for foster youth;

13 (III) Improve racial and ethnic equity in adult outcomes to the  
14 age of twenty-five; and

15 (IV) Ensure robust and ongoing participation of youth and young  
16 adult alumni of foster care in the review and implementation of the  
17 continuum of independent living and transition support services.

18 (iii) The department shall convene this work group in  
19 collaboration with:

20 (A) Current foster youth and alumni;

21 (B) The office of the superintendent of public instruction;

22 (C) The department of social and health services developmental  
23 disabilities administration;

24 (D) The health care authority;

25 (E) The state board for community and technical colleges;

26 (F) The state workforce training and education coordinating  
27 board;

28 (G) The office of homeless youth;

29 (H) The student achievement council; and

30 (I) Other nongovernmental agencies that work with foster youth on  
31 successful transitions to adulthood, including contracted independent  
32 living skills providers.

33 (iv) In developing recommendations required in (y)(i) of this  
34 subsection, the work group must engage tribes and stakeholders,  
35 including foster parents and relative caregivers, birth parents,  
36 caseworkers, school districts and educators, and post-secondary  
37 education advocates."

EFFECT: Appropriates \$125,000 in Fiscal Year 2020 for the  
Department of Children, Youth, and Families to establish a work group

to address the needs of foster youth to ensure a successful transition to adulthood.

FISCAL IMPACT (2019-2021): \$125,000 Near General Fund—State/  
\$125,000 Total Funds

FOUR-YEAR OUTLOOK EFFECT: \$125,000 Near General Fund—State

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